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SECRET

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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

ILLEGIB [redacted]

S-0815/XX-3

19 November 1968

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, SANITIZATION AND DECONTROL WORKING GROUP

SUBJECT: BLACK SHIELD Photography

1. References:

a. USIB-D-41.14/311.

b. COMIREX-D-4.17/2.

c. COMIREX-M-8.

DIA Declassification/Release Instructions on File

2. References established the security handling and release policy of BLACK SHIELD products for Vietnam. Included in this policy was authorization to use selected frames of the photography, when appropriately sanitized, in combat target folders at the SECRET classification level.

3. SR-71 (GIANT SCALE) operations in Vietnam have now supplanted the BLACK SHIELD operations. The security policy established by DOD for GIANT SCALE is essentially the same as that established by USIB for BLACK SHIELD with the exception that photography required for combat target folders has been authorized for use at the CONFIDENTIAL classification level.

4. Handling photography in preparation and control of target folders with different classifications creates burdensome administrative problems for combatant elements. In view of the similarity of the GIANT SCALE and BLACK SHIELD photography particularly after cropped and sanitized, it is requested that the SDWG examine the security and policy aspects

GROUP 3
Downgraded at 12 year intervals;
Not automatically declassified

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of permitting use of Vietnam BLACK SHIELD photography in combat target folders at the CONFIDENTIAL level.

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H. D. MYLES
CDR, USN
DIA SDWG Member

[redacted]

cc: SDWG Members:
Army
Navy
Air Force
CIA
NSA
State

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